

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 01663 271925Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ORM-02

DHA-02 PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 /051 W

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4402

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

CSAF IMMEDIATE

MAC/SCOTT AFB IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF EAID AO

SUBJECT: AIRLIFT TERMINATION DATE

REF: STATE 254843

SECDEF 241455

1. LT.COL. GONCALVES RIBEIRO, OVERALL GOP COORDINATOR OF LUANDA END OF AIRLIFT, TOLD US OCT. 26 THAT AIRLIFT WILL BE TERMINATED ON OCT. 31 FOR LUANDA AREA RESIDENTS. AFTER OCT. 31 ONLY PERSONS WHO WILL BE AIRLIFTED WILL BE THOSE IN MISCELLANEOUS CATEGORIES SUCH AS VOLUNTEER WORKERS OF EVACUATION COMMITTEES AND THEIR FAMILIES, IARN STAFF MEMBERS, LAST MINUTE ARRIVALS FROM OTHER AREAS OF COUNTRY, ETC. TO MOVE THESE PERSONS, CONCALVES RIBEIRO FORESEES CONTINUATION OF AIRLIFT ON REDUCED BASIS THROUGH NOV. 1, 2, AND 3, AND HE HAS ASKED LISBON TO PROVIDE AIRLIFT CAPACITY OF 2,000 PERSONS DAILY FOR THAT PERIOD. BOTH AS A SPUR TO TAP AND TO ENSURE THAT OVERALL US CONTRIBUTION TO AIRLIFT NOT BE OVERLOOKED BECAUSE OF NON-PARTICIPATION IN FINAL PHASE, CONCALVES RIBEIRO

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PAGE 02 LUANDA 01663 271925Z

REQUESTED THAT USG CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE AIRCRAFT

IN SUPPORT OF REDUCED AIRLIFT FOR PERIOD NOV. 1 THROUGH NOV. 3.

2. WE ARE PERSUADED THAT GOP HERE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO TERMINATE AIRLIFT FOR LUANDA RESIDENTS ON OCT. 31. HOWEVER, FIGURE OF 2,000 PERSTNS DAILY FOR MISCELLANEOUS CATEGORIES IO BE MOVED ON NOV. 1, 2, AND 3 PROBABLY IS INFLATED, WITH DIFFERENCE REPRESENTING HEDGE AGAINST OCT. 31 DEADLINE AND IN ANTICIPATION OF FINAL SURGE IN DEMAND. PROBLEM OF BALANCING SUPPLY OF AIRCRAFT WITH DEMAND FOR SPACE IS PERSISTING THROUGH

FINAL DAYS OF AIRLIFT AND GOP UNDOUBTEDLY WANTS TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT NO PROSPECTIVE EVACUEE IS DENIED AIRLIFT BECAUSE OF THIS PROBLEM.

3. WHILE WE ARE IN NO BETTER POSITION THAN GOP AND LOCAL COMMITTEES TO DETERMINE WHETHER OCT. 31 IS REALISTIC CUT-OFF DATE FOR AIRLIFT OF LUANDA AREA RESIDENTS, WE SEE NO REASON TO PLAN TO CONTINUE OPERATIONS AT A LEVEL BEYOND THAT REQUESTED BY GOP. ACCORDINGLY, WE RECOMMEND THAT USG PHASE DOWN ITS PARTICIPATION IN AIRLIFT AFTER COMPLETION OF OCT. 31 FLIGHTS AND THAT FOR PERIOD NOV. 1, 2, 3 ONE DC-8-63 BE UTILIZED IN SUPPORT OF REDUCED AIRLIFT.
KILLORAN

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